

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02

SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-03 IGA-01 EUR-12 NIC-01 /094 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4447

USDOC WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASUNCION 0722

DEPT FOR ARA/APU; USDOC FOR OED/MEPD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ENRG, EEWT, PA, AR

SUBJECT: SOVIET PARTICIPATION IN YACYRETA-APIPE HYDROELECTRIC
PROJECT

REF: TELECON JONES/MCLAIN, 2/14/75

1. QUESTION POSED IN TELECON ABOUT PROBABLE
ATTITUDE OF GOP ON POSSIBLE USE OF SOVIET PRODUCED
POWER GENERATION COMPONENTS FOR YACYRETA-APIPE HYDRO-
ELECTRIC PROJECT IS DIFFICULT TO ANSWER DEFINITELY.
HOWEVER, BASED ON CONVERSATIONS DURING PAST YEAR WITH
HIGH RANKING GOP OFFICIALS, EMBASSY OFFICERS HAVE CON-
CLUDED THAT THE POSSIBILITY THAT GOP WOULD AGREE TO
SOVIET PARTICIPATION IN THESE PROJECTS IS EXTREMELY
SLIGHT. ENZO DEBERNARDI, PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRACION
NACIONAL DE ELECTRICIDAD, AND MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE
BOARDS OF BOTH ITAIPU AND YACYRETA-APIPE BI-
NATIONAL ENTITIES, TOLD EMBOFFS RECENTLY THAT EVEN
THOUGH SOVIET PARTICIPATION MIGHT INVOLVE ECONOMIC
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CONSIDERATIONS, IT WOULD BE DECIDED AND BLOCKED

BY GOP ON POLITICAL GROUNDS.

2. EVIDENCE OF GOP ATTITUDE ON THIS QUESTION IS
TO BE FOUND IN TEXT OF RECENT SOLICITATION OF BIDS
FOR THE FEASIBILITY AND DESIGN STUDY FOR THE JOINT
ARGENTINE-PARAGUAYAN CORPUS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT.
THE INVITATION TO TENDER BIDS WAS RESTRICTED TO "FIRMS
WHICH HAVE CONSULAR OR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH
BOTH HIGH CONTRACTING PARTIES (ARGENTINA AND PARAGUAY)."

3. BASED ON THIS EVIDENCE, IT WOULD APPEAR EXTREMELY
DOUBTFUL THAT GOP WOULD AGREE TO PURCHASE SOVIET
EQUIPMENT WHETHER AS PART OF ARRANGEMENT WITH U.S.
COMPANY OR NOT.
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